

May 11, 2017

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Amendment of Parts 2 and 25 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate the Use of Earth Stations in Motion Communicating with Geostationary Orbit Space Stations in Frequency Bands Allocated to the Fixed Satellite Service, IB Docket No. 17-95, Written *Ex Parte* Presentation

Inmarsat, Inc., EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation, and Hughes Network Systems, LLC (collectively "Inmarsat, EchoStar, and Hughes") file this letter in response to the filing by Iridium on May 8, 2017, addressing the draft Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the tentative agenda for the Commission's meeting on May 18, 2017, proposing rules that would permit earth stations in motion ("ESIMs") to be licensed in the 11.7-12.2 GHz, 14.0-14.5 GHz, 18.3-18.8 GHz, 19.7-20.2 GHz, 28.35-28.6 GHz, and 29.25-30 GHz bands ("NPRM"). The Commission should adopt the NPRM as it was proposed. The concerns raised by Iridium can be fully addressed through the rulemaking process that will follow the issuance of the NPRM.

In the ex parte Iridium proposes that the 29.25-29.3 GHz sub-band be removed from the Commission's ESIMs proposal or alternatively that the Commission take no position on the merits of including the sub-band and only seek comment as to whether operating ESIMs in the sub-band without causing harmful interference to Iridium's feeder links is technically feasible.

Inmarsat, EchoStar, and Hughes note that the 29.25-29.3 GHz band is designated on a co-primary basis to GSO FSS and NGSO MSS feeder link operations, subject to coordination, and that the GSO FSS earth stations in this band are blanket licensed so the location and number of terminals are not restricted by the current rules. In the NPRM the Commission in Footnote 56, recognizes this situation and clearly states that ESIM applicants and licensees that plan to conduct operations in the 29.25-29.3 GHz band need to coordinate with Iridium as is the case with blanket licensed GSO FSS earth station that operate in this band.¹

¹ See Amendment of Parts 2 and 25 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate the Use of Earth Stations in Motion Communicating with Geostationary Orbit Space Stations in Frequency Bands Allocated to the Fixed Satellite Service, IB Docket No. 17-95, *Draft Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC-CIRC1705-01, n. 56 ("We also note that feederlinks for the Iridium NGSO MSS satellite system are operated in the 29.1-29.3 GHz band. *See, e.g., Iridium Satellite LLC*, IBFS File No. SES-MOD-20060907-01680 (granted Mar. 29, 2007). ESIM applicants and licensees planning to conduct operations in the 29.25-29.3 GHz band would have to coordinate with Iridium under 47 CFR §§ 25.203(h) and 25.258 prior to operating in those frequencies.").

The Commission should adopt the NPRM as proposed by the Commission, which takes into account the situation in the 29.25-29.3 GHz band, and not pre-judge the operation of Earth stations in motion in the 29.25-29.30 GHz band by revising the draft NPRM based on the input from one operator of the band. The points raised in Iridium's ex parte can be openly raised, debated and addressed fully as part of the rulemaking process after Commission approval of the NPRM.

Respectfully submitted,

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